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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/658,198	09/08/2000	Toshikatsu Hama	SCET 17.735	3447

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EXAMINER

PHAN, THANH S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/658,198

Applicant(s)

HAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh S Phan

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-12,14,17 and 19-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-12,14,17 and 19-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/23/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 19-21, 24, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brandenburg et al. [US 6,180,045] in view of Phillips et al. [US 5,748,455] and McCoy, Jr. [US 5,014,160].

Brandenburg et al. disclose an electromagnetic shielding plate [130] for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of an object comprising: a conductive covering plate having a plate surface and an edge; and a plurality of connecting strips/notches provided along the edge of said covering plate, said connecting strips/notches extending along said plate surface and downwardly from said edge and terminating in tip portions that conduct electromagnetic radiation from said conductive covering plate to a ground; wherein each of the connecting strips/notches of the plurality is bent so that the tip portion thereof projects partially outwardly from said plate surface of the covering plate and makes resilient surface contact with a ground [figure 3, column 3 lines 43-60].

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Brandenburg et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the shielding plate being used with a cabinet, the shielding plate being connected via the tip portion to a ground and the tip forming a point contact with the ground.

Phillips et al. disclose an apparatus comprising a housing/cabinet structure engages (fixing portion) to a shielding plate [10], said shielding plate being connected to a ground trace [50] within a cabinet structure [abstract, lines 10-14; figures 7 and 9].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cabinet/ground connection design of Phillips et al. with Brandenburg et al. for the purpose of securing and providing grounding for the shielding structure.

McCoy, Jr. discloses a shielding plate assembly [50] having a plurality of spring fingers [54] formed in a plate shape having an arc shaped tip portion [figures 5A-B] extending therefrom engaging a ground [47].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the arc shaped tip design of McCoy, Jr., in Brandenburg et al., as modified, for the purpose of providing a press-fit to the shield for mounting.

Regarding claim 2. Brandenburg et al. disclose the electromagnetic shielding plate further comprising a supporting portion [132] for establishing a space between said electromagnetic shielding plate and said object.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the tip portions higher than the connecting strips in order to permit the tip portions to engage the board.

Regarding claim 3, Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said supporting portion comprises a connecting portion for connecting said electromagnetic shielding plate with said object [figure 3].

Regarding claims 4, and 6, Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said covering plate and said connecting strip being integrally formed [figure 3].

Regarding claim 5, Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said connecting strips projecting from said covering plate are higher than said supporting portion [figure 3].

Claims 8-12, 14, 22, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brandenburg et al. in view of Phillips et al. as applied to claims 1-6, 19-21 above, and further in view of Hood, III et al. [US 6,049,469].

Brandenburg et al. in view of Phillips et al. disclose the claimed invention except for a first group of the connecting strips being bent in a first direction relative to said plate and a second connecting strips being bent in a second direction relative to said plate and opposite of the first direction.

Hood, III et al. disclose a shielding member [303] including first and second groups of connecting strips [111, 115; figure 3] being bent in a first direction relative to said plate and a second connecting strips being bent in a second direction relative to said plate and opposite of the first direction.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the strip connection design of Hood, III et al. with the plate of Brandenburg et al., as modified, for the purpose of facilitating shielding connections.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh S Phan whose telephone number is 571-272-2109. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

tsp


TULSIDAS PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER